

Dear Members of the Education Committee:

I am opposed to HB 5447 (An Act Implementing the recommendations of the auditors of a public accounts concerning private providers of special education). As a parent of an adult son with autism and a Board Certified Behavior Analyst I understand how limiting this bill will be for providing specialized services to children with developmental disorders including autism.

The quality of private providers of special education services varies and parents should be able to have the legal IEP document specify which agency or individual will provide the service. Also, if the state of Connecticut determines the pay range for providers, those children who live in higher cost areas of the state may not have access to providers because the pay may not be sufficient for providers to work in that area.

Please vote against HB 5447.

Sincerely,

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